

CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

# REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1939

W. STEWART, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

J. T. H. HALL, Cert. R.S.I.



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## CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Chairman of the Council ... MR. W. E. HAWTHORNE,  
Vice-Chairman ... MR. J. WALTON,  
Chairman of the Public Health Committee ... MR. J. WALTON,  
Chairman of the Isolation Hospital Committee,  
MR. S. H. HARVEY.

### **Public Health Staff.**

Medical Officer of Health :

\*W. Stewart, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

\*J. T. H. Hall, Certificate R.S.I.

\*Additional Sanitary Inspector :

E. G. Rowley, A.R.San.I. Left 31st December, 1938.

Clerk : M. W. Mills.

### **Isolation Hospital (Cheslyn Hay).**

Medical Superintendent :

O. W. R. Tomkinson, M.B., Ch.B.

Matron : M. G. Lawton, S.R.N.

One Staff Nurse, three Probationers, one Ward Maid, one  
Cook-General, Porter and Portress, Ambulance Driver (part-  
time).

\* Exchequer Grants are made in respect of these.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee  
of the Cannock Rural District Council.**

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the Health of the People and the Sanitary Conditions of the District for the year 1938. It is drawn up in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health in the Circular 1728.

The year 1938 was notable in that not only was the downward tendency in the Birth Rate stopped, but the number of births was the highest for ten years. The increase was noticeable in practically all Parishes, both in the urban workers' household and in the farm labourers'. It was more than four per thousand higher than that for the country as a whole.

The General Health of the area was not markedly affected by any definite severe epidemics, though there was a high incidence of some of the Infectious Diseases. The Death Rate, although somewhat less than that of the year previous, was still greater than the average for the past ten years. Most of the deaths were from Diseases of the Heart and Circulation and affected both sexes more or less equally. Deaths from Cancer and the various Respiratory Diseases were also considerable.

Cases of Scarlet Fever and Dysentery continued to be rather numerous in the early months and there was a certain amount of Diphtheria early and late in the year. That in November and December particularly affected the parish of Cheslyn Hay. Whooping Cough, Influenza, Mumps, and Chicken Pox were all rather prevalent in the spring, and Whooping Cough with its pulmonary complications was the cause of three deaths, all children under one year. There were four deaths from Diphtheria. More than half the total of Notifiable Diseases occurred in the first quarter of the year.

Immunisation against Diphtheria was continued in most of the urban schools, and approximately two-thirds of the parents of entrants consented to have their children immunised. This was an extremely good percentage, although it varied from 90 per cent. to 37 per cent. in different schools. The number of children injected at Welfare Centres and Clinics increased, and this is really of the greatest importance as the severer types of Diphtheria frequently attack the younger children.

During the year Parliament considered the Bill for the Joint Hospital for Infectious Diseases for the Mid-Staffordshire Districts, and early in 1939 passed it in its entirety. It is to be hoped that it will be a Hospital in reality in the not too distant



future. Although the present Hospital at Cheslyn Hay opened in 1904 by an exceedingly far-sighted Council, has been of great benefit to the District for 34 years, it was only by extreme hard work on the part of the staff that it has proven at all adequate at epidemic times for the needs of the District, and even then, it has been practically impossible to admit severe cases of Whooping Cough and Measles.

During the year houses were built by the Local Authority and private enterprise in various parts of the District, and arrangements were made for the building of more. The new houses and the gradual improvement of a considerable number of the older ones throughout the urban and rural parishes all tended to improve the living conditions of the people. As there is in the District a considerable number of two-bedroomed houses, the houses built during the year had a minimum of three bedrooms, both from the desire to assist some of the overcrowded families to live in a more proper condition, and in the hope that there might be a shift of some of the population from smaller to larger houses, thereby leaving the smaller houses for more suitably sized families. As this has not occurred, and there are still in this district small families or couples living in condemned houses, and probably other couples, young and old, who would desire only one or two-bedroomed houses, the Council might consider the provision of small houses, not necessarily bungalows, throughout the district, so that eventually there might be houses of different types to suit the growing families.

The passing of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938, during the year, should be of exceeding value to many members of the Rural population. It puts into the hands of the Local Authority, or through them to a certain extent to the landowners and farmers, Government Grants for the building of farm cottages. This opportunity of bringing the housing conditions of the rural workers, at long last, up to a proper standard should not be neglected. Towards the end of the year the Council decided that in the first place, cottages built for rural workers under this Act would be more conveniently built by persons other than the Council. If, however, the results are meagre, the probability is that the Local Authority itself may have to undertake the provision of these houses.

Extensions of the water mains were made during the year to Gailey and Hatherton and part of Dunston, and thus gradually the more populous parts of the district are being provided with wholesome water. Outstanding however still is the question of the provision of a proper supply to the villages

of Acton and Bednall, and also some other parts of the Parish of Dunston.

Several sewerage schemes were completed at Brewood and Huntington, and work in connection with the comprehensive scheme for the south-eastern part of the district proceeded steadily. It is to be hoped that it will not be too many years before it is brought to fruition, as the state of things in Wedges Mills and that neighbourhood and in other parts of the more urbanised area where reliance has to be placed on cesspools, is, at times, extremely bad. The question of the village of Wheaton Aston mentioned in these reports for some years still remains to be considered. The mingling of the farms with the dwelling houses throughout the village will probably render this a somewhat difficult problem for anything short of a comprehensive scheme.

Air Raid Precautions during the year caused some dislocation of the routine work of the department, and precluded the ability of carrying out all the investigations desired.

There was again one staff change during the year. The Additional Sanitary Inspector, Mr. E. G. Rowley, left at the end of the year, to join the Derbyshire County Council Staff. Mr. Hall, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, was unfortunately absent from duty for two months in the spring, owing to ill-health.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and the Members of the Council for their continued co-operation during the year, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector and other members of the Staff for their loyal collaboration and assistance.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**WILLIAM STEWART,**

Medical Officer of Health.

## **STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.**

Area (in acres) : 55,256.

Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population : 21,670.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to the rate books: 5,823.

Rateable Value is £85,703, and a penny rate produces £340.

During 1938 little change occurred in the working conditions of the District. There were no new factories established and there was not much difference in the state of employment. Those employed in the surrounding towns had steady work, while those who depended on coal-mining for their maintenance suffered the usual variations consequent to that. The Midland Divisional Office Controller has kindly given me the following statements showing the state of unemployment in some of the adjoining towns at the middle of February, 1939. The figures for Cannock exclude Chasetown and Hednesford, and those for Walsall exclude Brownhills.

#### Unemployment at 13th February, 1939.

| AREA          | Men<br>18-64 | Boys<br>16-17 | Women<br>18-64 | Girls<br>16-17 | Total | Per-<br>cent-<br>age | Percentage    |                       |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
|               |              |               |                |                |       |                      | March<br>1937 | Feb-<br>ruary<br>1938 |
| CANNOCK ...   | 241          | 6             | 164            | 56             | 467   | 7.9                  | 3.6           | 5.5                   |
| NEWPORT ...   | 122          | 1             | 31             | 6              | 160   | 7.5                  | 11.1          | 13.7                  |
| WALSALL ...   | 4292         | 98            | 1357           | 60             | 5807  | 15.5                 | 9.3           | 12.6                  |
| WOLVERHAMPTON | 4220         | 65            | 1730           | 126            | 6141  | 9.4                  | 7.9           | 9.0                   |

#### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

##### BIRTHS.

|                   |     |     |     | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|--------|
| Total Live Births | ... | ... | .   | 226   | 200     | 426    |
| Legitimate        | .   | ... | ..  | 216   | 195     | 411    |
| Illegitimate      | ... | ... | ... | 10    | 5       | 15     |

Birth Rate per 1,000 population, 19.65.

Birth Rate per 1,000 population, England Wales, 15.1.



|                    |     |     |     | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|--------|
| Total Still Births | ... | ... | ... | 6     | 15      | 21     |
| Legitimate         | ... | ... | ... | 5     | 13      | 18     |
| Illegitimate       | ... | ... | ... | 1     | 2       | 3      |

Still Birth Rate: 49.3 per 1,000 Births.

Still Birth Rate: .97 per 1,000 Population.

Still Birth Rate, England Wales: .60 per 1,000 population.

The number of Births in this District during 1938 was the highest since 1928, although the actual Birth Rate, owing to a smaller population, was higher in 1930. There was an increase of 69 on the figures for the previous year, and practically all that increase was Male Births. These figures would tend to indicate that the actual population of the area is somewhat higher than the Registrar-General's estimate.

The District Registrar's weekly returns showed that 68 Births occurred in the households of agricultural workers, an increase of 16 compared with 1937.

The Still Birth Rate remained rather high, although it was somewhat lower than that of the previous few years. It is extremely difficult to obtain sufficient information about such deaths as a large proportion of them occurred in institutions outside this area.

The tables below show how, during the past nine years, this district has compared with the country as a whole, and also the Parish distribution as far as can be ascertained from the Registrars.

| Year |     | Total Births |     | Birth Rate |     | Total Still Births |     | Still Birth Rate |     | England and Wales |
|------|-----|--------------|-----|------------|-----|--------------------|-----|------------------|-----|-------------------|
| 1930 | ... | 424          | ... | 20.13      | ... | 18                 | ... | .85              | ... | .69               |
| 1931 | ... | 412          | ... | 19.64      | ... | 22                 | ... | 1.04             | ... | .67               |
| 1932 | ... | 405          | ... | 19.16      | ... | 16                 | ... | .75              | ... | .66               |
| 1933 | ... | 361          | ... | 17.5       | ... | 13                 | ... | .72              | ... | .62               |
| 1934 | ... | 361          | ... | 17.3       | ... | 18                 | ... | .85              | ... | .62               |
| 1935 | ... | 379          | ... | 17.87      | ... | 23                 | ... | 1.08             | ... | .62               |
| 1936 | ... | 374          | ... | 17.48      | ... | 21                 | ... | .98              | ... | .61               |
| 1937 | ... | 357          | ... | 16.5       | ... | 24                 | ... | 1.1              | ... | .60               |
| 1938 | ... | 426          | ... | 19.65      | ... | 21                 | ... | .97              | ... | .60               |

## PARISH DISTRIBUTION OF REGISTERED BIRTHS AND STILL BIRTHS.

| Cheslyn Hay Sub-District. |     |        |              | Brewood Sub-District. |     |        |              |
|---------------------------|-----|--------|--------------|-----------------------|-----|--------|--------------|
|                           |     | Births | Still Births |                       |     | Births | Still Births |
| Cheslyn Hay               | ... | 50     | 1            | Blymhill              | ... | 10     | —            |
| Essington                 | ... | 51     | 2            | Acton and Bednall     | ... | 7      | 1            |
| Hatherton                 | ... | 3      | —            | Brewood               | ... | 38     | —            |
| Hilton                    | ... | 2      | —            | Coppenhall            | ... | 1      | —            |
| Huntington                | ... | 47     | 3            | Dunston               | ... | 6      | —            |
| Saredon                   | ... | 5      | —            | Featherstone          | ... | 30     | —            |
| Shareshill                | ... | 6      | —            | Lapley                | ... | 10     | 1            |
| Great Wyrley              | ... | 65     | 1            | Penkridge             | ... | 29     | —            |
|                           |     |        |              | Stretton              | ... | 3      | 1            |
|                           |     |        |              | Teddesley Hay         | ... | —      | —            |
|                           |     |        |              | Weston-u-Lizard       | ... | 1      | 1            |
|                           |     | 229    | 7            |                       |     | 135    | 5            |

### DEATHS.

Total 243. Male 134. Female 109.

Local Crude Death Rate: 11.2 per 1,000 population.

Local Adjusted Death Rate: 11.98 per 1,000 population.

Death Rate for the country as a whole: 11.6 per 1,000.

The Death Rate was lower than that of 1937 and compares quite favourably with that of the country as a whole. There were eighteen fewer deaths and the main causes were still Diseases of the Heart and Circulation, Respiratory Diseases, and Cancer, although in 1938 again the number of people dying from the various Infectious Diseases, including Tuberculosis was rather high. Of the 243 deaths, 104 were of persons over 65 years of age, and of the 68 between 45 and 65 years, the majority were about 60 years of age.

For the first time on record in this District, there were no Deaths from Puerperal Causes. This is highly satisfactory, and it is to be hoped that, although for the past twelve years the number of such deaths has never been very large, few women, if any, will continue to die as a result of child-bearing.

The Maternal Mortality Rate for the Country per 1,000 Live Births was 3.08.

The Maternal Mortality Rate for the Country for Total Live Births was 2.97.

The following table gives the distribution of deaths for the principal Parishes for the years 1928 to 1938:—

| Parish       | Acreage | Average |      |      |      |      |         | Popu-<br>lation |
|--------------|---------|---------|------|------|------|------|---------|-----------------|
|              |         | 1938    | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1928-33 | 1931<br>Census  |
| Brewood      | 12152   | 29      | 38   | 36   | 31   | 43   | 34      | 2718            |
| Cheslyn Hay  | 819     | 46      | 51   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34      | 2981            |
| Essington    | 3054    | 33      | 31   | 16   | 21   | 17   | 25      | 2483            |
| Featherstone | 504     | 6       | 7    | 7    | 8    | 2    | 9       | 1058            |
| Great Wyrley | 1648    | 34      | 34   | 30   | 33   | 35   | 31      | 2926            |
| Huntington   | 1303    | 18      | 13   | 22   | 15   | 22   | 14      | 1816            |
| Penkridge    | 10788   | 27      | 29   | 17   | 30   | 20   | 29      | 2550            |

See Table 1 for all Parishes.

Sixty-two or 25.51 per cent. of the deaths occurred outside the area, and the distribution is as follows:—

| Places where Death occurred.           | Total Deaths. Male. Female. |    |    |
|--|-----------------------------|----|----|
| The Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton...   | 11                          | 11 | —  |
| The Cannock Infirmary ... ..           | 14                          | 9  | 5  |
| The Staffordshire General Hospital ... | 10                          | 7  | 3  |
| The Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton    | 5                           | 2  | 3  |
| Walsall Hospital ... ..                | 6                           | 3  | 3  |
| Mental Hospitals ... ..                | —                           | —  | —  |
| Other Hospitals ... ..                 | 6                           | 4  | 2  |
| Sanatoria ... ..                       | 1                           | 1  | —  |
| Private Addresses, Nursing Homes, etc. | 9                           | 2  | 7  |
|  | 62                          | 39 | 23 |

The Principal Causes of Death were:—

|   | Average |      |      |      |      |         |
|---|---------|------|------|------|------|---------|
|   | 1938    | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1928-33 |
| Diseases of the Heart and Circulation ... ..          | 61      | 86   | 62   | 60   | 62   | 57.9    |
| Respiratory Diseases ... ..                           | 28      | 21   | 18   | 22   | 28   | 30.2    |
| Cancer ... ..   | 30      | 31   | 24   | 29   | 28   | 26.1    |
| Violence, including Suicide... ..                     | 14      | 15   | 16   | 12   | 17   | 17.8    |
| Congenital Debility, Malformation and Premature Birth | 18      | 10   | 14   | 14   | 12   | 11.3    |

The ages of Deaths were:—

|                      | Males. Females. Total. |    |     |
|----------------------|------------------------|----|-----|
| Under 1 year ... ..  | 17                     | 17 | 34  |
| 1—5 years ... ..     | 5                      | 5  | 10  |
| 5—15 years ... ..    | 6                      | 1  | 7   |
| 15—25 years ... ..   | 5                      | 2  | 7   |
| 25—45 years ... ..   | 7                      | 6  | 13  |
| 45—65 years ... ..   | 40                     | 28 | 68  |
| Over 65 years ... .. | 54                     | 50 | 104 |

## DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

It is to be regretted that children, to the number of 34, died before completing their first year of life. This is the worst for the past ten years. Although some of those children died from congenital defects many of them could be considered as preventable deaths.

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births: 79.7.

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age for England and Wales: 53.

Death Rate of Legitimate infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births: 75.6.

Death Rate of Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births: 138.3.

The following are particulars:—

|                   |     |     |    |
|-------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Died under 1 year | ... | ... | 34 |
| 1 month and under | ... | ... | 18 |
| 1 week and under  | ... | ... | 13 |
| 1 day and under   | ... | ... | 9  |

| PARISH           | Prematurity | Congenital Defects | Birth Injuries | Chest Infection | CAUSE           |                | Tubercular Meningitis | Pneumococcal Meningitis | Totals |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------|
|                  |             |                    |                |                 | Bowel Infection | Whooping Cough |                       |                         |        |
| Great Wyrley     | 1           | ...                | ...            | 1               | 2               | 1              | ...                   | ...                     | 5      |
| Cheslyn Hay ...  | ...         | 1                  | 2              | 1               | ...             | ...            | ...                   | 1                       | 5      |
| Essington ...    | 1           | ...                | ...            | ...             | 2               | 1              | ...                   | ...                     | 4      |
| Huntington ..    | 1           | 1                  | 1              | 2               | ...             | ...            | ...                   | ...                     | 5      |
| Featherstone ... | ...         | 1                  | ...            | 2               | ...             | ...            | ...                   | ...                     | 3      |
| Brewood ...      | 2           | 3                  | ...            | ...             | ...             | ...            | ...                   | ...                     | 5      |
| Penkridge ...    | 2           | 1                  | ...            | ...             | ..              | ...            | ..                    | ...                     | 3      |
| Blymhill .       | ...         | ...                | ...            | 2               | ...             | ...            | ...                   | ...                     | 2      |
| Dunston ...      | ...         | ...                | ...            | ...             | ...             | ...            | 1                     | ...                     | 1      |
| Hilton ...       | ...         | ...                | ...            | ...             | .               | 1              | ...                   | ...                     | 1      |
| Totals ...       | 7           | 7                  | 3              | 8               | 4               | 3              | 1                     | 1                       | 34     |

The quarterly distributions were: 1st quarter, 13 deaths; 2nd, 10; 3rd, 8; 4th, 3.

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..      | 30 |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..     | —  |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... | 3  |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... | 4  |

## NURSING IN THE HOME.

1. (a) General.—There are six District Nursing Associations in the area, five of which are affiliated to the County Nursing Association.

(b) Home Nursing.—The County have made provision so that the services of trained nurses may be obtained in epidemic times to look after cases of Diarrhoea and Measles in their own homes. Provision has also been made for the nursing of Puerperal Pyrexia cases in their own homes.

2. Midwives.—The Medical Officer of Health has kindly supplied me with the following information as to Midwives practising in the area. At the end of 1938, eight Midwives were resident in the district—six employed by Nursing Associations and two in independent practice. Two Nursing Association Midwives resident outside the area were responsible for Parishes inside, viz., Huntington and Acton Trussell, which are served by the Cannock and Berkswich Nursing Associations respectively. In addition a few cases are undertaken by independent Midwives who reside outside the district.

## Laboratory Facilities.

The examination of water and all chemical material is undertaken at the County Laboratory, Stafford. The details of work carried out on behalf of this Authority during the year are:

Bacteriological examination of Diphtheria Swabs:—

|                                  |       | Positive. | Negative. |
|----------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| For General Practitioners ... .. | 652   | 56        | 496       |
| For Isolation Hospital ... ..    | 475   | 68        | 407       |
|                                  | <hr/> |           |           |
|                                  | 1127  |           |           |
| Tubercular Sputum ... ..         | 16    | 1         | 15        |
| Other Swabs ... ..               | 41    | —         | —         |
| Faeces examinations ... ..       | 26    | 2         | 24        |
| Bacteriological examination of   | <hr/> |           |           |
| water ... ..                     | 128   |           |           |
| Chemical examination of water    | 131   |           |           |



During 1938 more than three times as many examinations of Diphtheria swabs were carried out at the County Laboratory for the Cheslyn Hay Hospital and the General Practitioners in this area as in 1937, and as far as records show more than were done ever before. The co-operation of Dr. Menton and his Assistants has been extremely helpful in localising the many small outbreaks of Diphtheria.

#### **Mortuaries.**

There are three well-constructed modern Mortuaries in the area. They are situated at Penkridge, Coven, and Great Wyrley.

### **ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYE-LAWS IN FORCE.**

Such provisions of Section 171 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as incorporate provisions of Town Police Clauses Act, 1874, with respect to Fires.

Also Section 161, Para. 1, provision of Urban Powers, as to Street Lighting in the Parishes of Featherstone, Hilton, and Huntington.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890:—

\*Section 23—Bye-laws with respect to sufficient Water Supply to Water Closets, Paving of Yards, etc.

\*Section 25—Building on Offensive Matters, etc.

Section 28 Unsound Food.

Sections 29, 30 and 31—Slaughter House Licences.

\*Section 33—Use of Building as a Dwelling.

Section 49—Powers of Ministry as to Special Expenses.

Part 4—Music and Dancing.

Infectious Disease Prevention, 1890—Sec. 1-4, 16, 18-24.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1907—Sec. 53 and 54.

Bye-laws as to Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures.

Bye-laws as to New Streets and Buildings.

Bye-laws as to Slaughter Houses.

\*Section only repealed, but not Bye-laws.

### **HOSPITALS**

#### **Infectious Diseases.**

As there has been considerable delay in the provision of the Joint Hospital of the Mid-Staffordshire Districts the Hospital at Cheslyn Hay was still required to be open during 1938, and

probably will also be so in 1939. As the staff are working under difficult conditions, especially marked in stormy times of the year, it is to be hoped that the construction of the new Hospital will be speeded up. In spite of the conditions there, 170 cases were admitted during the year, and although this was not so many as in 1937, when there was a record total of 184 patients, the Hospital was full for long periods. Practically a third of those admitted were from outside districts and if the Hospital could have taken them, twice as many would have been sent in from the surrounding authorities.

I am indebted to the Medical Superintendent for his report on the Hospital's activities during the year.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report as Medical Superintendent of your Hospital for the year 1938.

|  | Scarlet<br>Fever | Observation<br>Scarlet<br>Fever | Diphtheria | Diphtheria<br>Carriers |
|--|------------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------------------|
| Cases admitted in 1937<br>and discharged in 1938 | 21               |                                 | 5          |                        |
| Cases admitted and dis-<br>charged in 1938       | 81               | 2                               | 65         | 9                      |
| Cases admitted in 1938<br>and discharged in 1939 | 1                |                                 | 12         |                        |
| Average duration of<br>stay in days              | 36.5             |                                 | 26.5       |                        |
| Cases died                                       |                  |                                 | 5          |                        |

### Parish Distribution of Cases.

| Parish.               | Diphtheria | Scarlet<br>Fever | Observation<br>Scarlet<br>Fever | Diphtheria<br>Carriers |
|-----------------------|------------|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Acton and Bednall ... |            | 1                |                                 | 1                      |
| Brewood ... ..        | 3          | 2                |                                 |                        |
| Cheslyn Hay ... ..    | 23         | 16               |                                 | 2                      |
| Essington ... ..      | 3          | 4                |                                 |                        |
| Featherstone .. ...   |            | 4                |                                 | 2                      |
| Hatherton ... ..      |            | 1                |                                 |                        |
| Hilton ... ..         |            | 1                |                                 |                        |
| Huntington ... ..     | 3          | 7                |                                 | 1                      |
| Lapley ... ..         | 1          | 4                |                                 |                        |
| Penkridge .. ...      | 1          | 1                |                                 |                        |
| Saredon ... ..        |            | 3                |                                 |                        |
| Weston-u-Lizard ...   |            | 1                |                                 |                        |
| Wyrley, Great .. ...  | 11         | 14               | 2                               | 3                      |

Of the 170 cases admitted during the year, the 55 cases charged to other authorities were as follows:—

| Authority            | Scarlet Fever | Diphtheria |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|
| Aldridge Urban ...   |               | 4          |
| Brownhills Urban ... | 10            | 9          |
| Cannock Urban ...    | 5             | 19         |
| Lichfield Rural ...  | 8             |            |

### Complicated Cases.

One case of Scarlet Fever developed Mastoiditis and was operated upon by Mr. Hallchurch. Another patient was admitted with a large abscess deep in the neck; Mr. Hallchurch also operated upon this. It was also necessary for him to see two other cases; one sent in as a suspected Mastoiditis and one with a deep abscess of the neck. It was not found necessary for him to operate in these cases. It will be observed that all the deaths were Diphtheria cases. One died nine hours after admission and two others within three days of admission.

I regret to say that the type of Diphtheria has reverted from

the (relatively) mild type of the last few years to the severe type we had about 1926.

It is noteworthy that the high incidence of complications of the heart in Scarlet Fever cases, noted last year, is still present.

O. W. R. TOMKINSON.

### **MATERNITY HOSPITALS.**

There are none in this area. Women suffering from Puerperal Pyrexia and cases of difficult labour, or when this condition is expected, are sent to the Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton, or the Staffordshire General Hospital, under the County Council Scheme.

### **SMALLPOX HOSPITAL.**

The Council have one representative on the Board of the South Staffordshire Joint Smallpox Hospital.

### **TUBERCULOSIS.**

The Council is represented on the Sub-Committee (Central Division) of the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Committee for Tuberculosis.

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS TO HOSPITALS.**

|  |    |   |   |
|--|----|---|---|
| General—Midland Counties Eye Infirmary, Wolverhampton, | £1 | 1 | 0 |
| General—Wolverhampton Royal Hospital ... ..            | £3 | 3 | 0 |
| General—Walsall General Hospital ... ..                | £3 | 3 | 0 |
| General—Stafford General Infirmary ... ..              | £3 | 3 | 0 |

### **AMBULANCE.**

The Council have one motor ambulance, stationed at Penkridge. The ambulance is used mainly for the removal of cases of Infectious Diseases, but when necessary, it is also available for general hospital and accident cases. In normal times this ambulance is adequate for the Infectious needs of the district.

There are four colliery ambulances in the area.

### **WELFARE SERVICES.**

In this district there are under the control of the County Council seven Welfare Centres and five School Clinics, and for the information of the members the following is a short report of those centres.

During the year there was a marked increase in the numbers of children attending the Welfare Centres, and also in the total attendance. This was observed in every Welfare in the District. The number of expectant mothers who took advantage of the ante-natal supervision given at the three centres at Penkridge, Cheslyn Hay and Featherstone also showed a welcome increase. As the years go on women will probably appreciate more and more the benefits both physical and mental which result from proper examinations before the birth of their children. In November a special clinic for expectant mothers was commenced in the Church Hall, Station Road, Great Wyrley, to serve the Parishes of Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley. This is much more satisfactory than mixing such a Clinic with the Welfare Centre at Cheslyn Hay, as had hitherto been done. Probably during 1939 a separate ante-natal clinic will be commenced in Featherstone, where the numbers have been too great to be adequately coped with in the midst of a Welfare Centre.

The three Health Visitors carry out all the duties required in their separate areas, and the Nurses and their districts are the following :—

Nurse Ratcliffe, Great Wyrley, Cheslyn Hay, and part of Essington.

Nurse Ellis, Huntington, Hatherton, Saredon, Shareshill, Featherstone, and most of Essington.

Nurse Bamborough, all the more rural side.

They attend the Schools, Welfare Centres and Clinics in their respective areas, and their co-operation has been of great value during the year.

The following table gives the individual Centres and the attendance figures :—



| WELFARE CENTRE                                   | No. of Sessions during year | Attendances for first time |              |                       | Total No. of Attendances during year |              |                       | No. of cases examined by Doctor |          |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
|  |                             | Expectant mothers          | Children     |                       | Expectant mothers                    | Children     |                       | Expectant mothers               | Children |
|  |                             |                            | Under 1 year | Between 1 and 5 years |                                      | Under 1 year | Between 1 and 5 years |                                 |          |
| PENKRIDGE ...                                    | 24                          | 18                         | 30           | 16                    | 30                                   | 285          | 535                   | 30                              | 320      |
| BREWOOD ...                                      | 23                          | —                          | 43           | 34                    | —                                    | 376          | 773                   | —                               | 414      |
| *CHESLYN HAY ...                                 | 23                          | 39                         | 56           | 49                    | 90                                   | 433          | 448                   | 90                              | 559      |
| GREAT WYRLEY ...                                 | 24                          | —                          | 61           | 37                    | —                                    | 468          | 522                   | —                               | 666      |
| ESSINGTON ...                                    | 12                          | —                          | 34           | 3                     | —                                    | 208          | 210                   | —                               | 351      |
| FEATHERSTONE ...                                 | 50                          | 41                         | 59           | 40                    | 99                                   | 717          | 1114                  | 99                              | 831      |
| HUNTINGTON ...                                   | 24                          | —                          | 34           | 25                    | —                                    | 267          | 278                   | —                               | 310      |
| +GREAT WYRLEY ...<br>(Special Ante-natal Clinic) | 3                           | 11                         | —            | —                     | 18                                   | —            | —                     | 18                              | —        |

\*Previously held 2nd and 4th Monday each month. From 5.12.38, Mondays fortnightly.

+Commenced 14.11.38.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

### **Water Supplies.**

The work of extending the water mains from Somerford to Water Eaton and to Gailey and along the Watling Street to Gailey Pools was completed during the year. The connecting of the houses to the mains proceeded satisfactorily and only eight houses remained to be done at the end of the year.

An extension from Penkridge to Dunston along the Stafford Road was also carried out, and the coupling up of the houses is proceeding.

Water Mains were laid in the village of Hatherton to supply 15 houses, and at the end of the year 13 of these were connected.

A short extension of the Water Mains by the Wolverhampton Corporation was made at Bursnips Road, Essington, to supply four houses, and these were connected.

A survey was made of the water supplies in the Parish of Acton Trussell and Bednall. There are 123 houses in the Parish and samples of water were taken from 64 wells supplying these. Of these samples, 46 were certified as being polluted both chemically and bacteriologically, 14 were chemically good but bacteriologically bad, 6 were bacteriologically good but not chemically, and 2 were good in both respects. In several instances in the Parish there are groups of 5 to 7 houses which have only one well to each group.

A report was also made on the insufficient and polluted supply from wells in the Parish of Dunston. The question of extending the mains in Dunston and providing a public supply in Acton Trussell and Bednall is under consideration by the Council.

### **DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.**

Several parts of the District are still in urgent need of proper sewerage systems. These are at Wedges Mills, Cheslyn Hay and Wood Lane, Saredon, where a large number of new houses have been erected in recent years. Coven Heath, in the Parish of Brewood, Shareshill and Wheaton Aston also remain to be sewered.

All these have been under consideration by the Council, and Cheslyn Hay, Saredon and Shareshill are included in the comprehensive scheme outlined in the Surveyor's report.

The question of a sewerage scheme for Wheaton Aston becomes increasingly more urgent.

I am indebted to the Surveyor, Mr. S. R. Biggs, for the following report on the progress of sewerage in the district during the year.

### **SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**

During 1938 several large schemes of extension of the sewerage systems in various parts of the district have been proceeded with.

The main drainage scheme for the Four Ashes and Standeford districts in the Parish of Brewood, the laying of a sewer along Coven Road, Brewood, to serve Hill Top, and the extensions to Huntington Sewage Disposal Works to deal with the increased flow consequent upon the building of Pit Head Baths at Littleton Colliery have been completed.

Other extensions were laid at Sneyd Lane, Essington; Francis Green Lane, Penkridge; Pinfold Lane, Cheslyn Hay; and Norton Lane, Great Wyrley. In all approximately three miles of pipes of varying sizes have been laid.

The proposed Comprehensive Scheme for the South Eastern portion of the district comprising part of the parishes of Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Saredon, and Shareshill has made good progress considering the amount of work which has been caused through other extensions and alterations.

Sites for the disposal works, pumping stations, and the lines of the main trunk sewers have been agreed upon, and work on the many details of the scheme is proceeding.

The scheme will provide main drainage facilities to several parts of the district where cesspool drainage is now the only means of disposal, and also to much undeveloped land, thus facilitating Building Development.

### **RIVERS AND STREAMS.**

No action has been necessary in connection with the pollution of rivers or streams.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

During the year 32 conversions of privy middens to water closets and 20 privy middens to pans were made.

In the populous portions of the parishes of Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Brewood, Huntington, Essington, Penkridge, Hilton and Featherstone there are 3672 houses connected to sewers, and of these 3607 have water closets and 3 have privy middens. The rest have pan closets.

There are now in the whole of the district (approximately) :

24 Waste Water Closets.

4131 Water Closets.

1319 Privy Middens.

336 Pan Closets.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The methods of scavenging remains as in previous years and is carried out by contract.

The scavenging in the Parish of Brewood was extended to include the whole of the houses in the Parish. The Parish of Shareshill was included in the scheme from January, 1938.

The Parishes scavenged are Brewood, Cheslyn Hay, Saredon, Essington, Huntington, Great Wyrley, Featherstone, Hilton, and Shareshill, and the number of premises in each Parish is 878, 796, 107, 740, 356, 1023, 201, 46 and 93 respectively, making a total of 4240.

There are at these premises 710 dry ashpits, 2550 dustbins, 690 privy middens, 193 pan closets, and 216 cesspools.

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Ashpits inspected   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 661 |
| Ashpits and Cesspools reported for emptying in Brewood      |     |     |     |     |     |     | 23  |
| Ashpits and Cesspools reported for emptying in Cheslyn Hay  |     |     |     |     |     |     | 19  |
| Ashpits and Cesspools reported for emptying in Great Wyrley |     |     |     |     |     |     | 19  |
| Ashpits and Cesspools reported for emptying in Essington    |     |     |     |     |     |     | 44  |
| Ashpits and Cesspools reported for emptying in Saredon      |     |     |     |     |     | ... | 2   |
| Ashpits and Cesspools reported for emptying in Shareshill   |     |     |     |     |     |     | 5   |
| Ashpits reported for emptying in Featherstone and Hilton    |     |     |     |     |     |     | 8   |
| Ashpits reported for emptying in Huntington                 |     |     |     | ... | ... |     | 1   |

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following is a summary of Inspections during the year, the number of notices served, and work done.

### Summary of Inspections and Work done during 1938.

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Complaints received and dealt with ... ..               | 54   |
| Number of Houses inspected ... ..                       | 743  |
| Re-inspections, calls, etc. ... ..                      | 1927 |
| Number of Houses measured ... ..                        | 467  |
| Nuisances found ... ..                                  | 431  |
| Nuisances abated ... ..                                 | 218  |
| Number of Workshops and Bakehouses inspected ... ..     | 43   |
| Bakehouses Whitewashed ... ..                           | 3    |
| Slaughterhouse Inspections ... ..                       | 43   |
| Slaughterhouse Licences renewed ... ..                  | 8    |
| Meat Inspections ... ..                                 | 288  |
| Meat Inspections under the Regulations ... ..           | 9    |
| Cowsheds and Dairies Inspected ... ..                   | 79   |
| Cowshed defects abated ... ..                           | 374  |
| Cowshed defects found ... ..                            | 320  |
| Canal Boats Inspected ... ..                            | 5    |
| Piggeries, Stables, etc. ... ..                         | 10   |
| Inspections under the Petroleum Acts ... ..             | 20   |
| Petrol Licences renewed ... ..                          | 41   |
| New Petrol Licences granted ... ..                      | 2    |
| Carbide Licences renewed ... ..                         | 6    |
| Drainage Work examined ... ..                           | 142  |
| Shops visited under the Shops Acts ... ..               | 92   |
| Cases of Infectious Disease investigated ... ..         | 170  |
| Cases of Infectious Disease removed ... ..              | 101  |
| Houses disinfected after Infectious cases ... ..        | 154  |
| Notices to Schools for exclusion of children ... ..     | 125  |
| Reports on Infectious cases to M.O.H. ... ..            | 140  |
| New Licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 ... ..     | 1    |
| Renewal Licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 ... .. | 26   |
| Informal Notices issued ... ..                          | 338  |
| Statutory Notices issued ... ..                         | Nil. |
| Number of Privies converted to Water Closets ... ..     | 32   |



In remedying the above Nuisances, the following improvements or works were carried out :—

- 19 Houses at which drains were entirely re-constructed and connected to sewers.
- 22 New additional Water Closets built.
- 137 Dustbins substituted for open ashpits.
- 32 Water Closets substituted for Privy Middens and Pans.
- 45 Defective drains relaid.
- 61 Yard surfaces relaid.
- 61 Roofs repaired.
- 63 Eavespouts and downspouts repaired.
- 108 Floors repaired.
- 62 Grates repaired.
- 77 Plaster of Walls and Ceilings repaired.
- 34 Sculleries repaired.
- 30 Dampness remedied.
- 13 Glazed sinks and waste pipes fixed in place of brick ones.
- 44 Boilers repaired.
- 51 Chimneys repaired.
- 117 Windows repaired.
- 47 Doors repaired.
- 51 Stairs repaired.
- 53 Water laid on in place of Wells.
- 20 Pans substituted for Privy Middens.
- 5 Water Closets repaired.

### **SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

No action was considered necessary under the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926.

### **SHOPS.**

During the year 1938, 92 visits were made under the Shops and Early Closing Acts. A fair proportion of the shops close earlier than 8 p.m. Some shops are permitted to remain open until 9-30 p.m. on five days and until 10 p.m. on Saturdays for the sale of certain articles, such as sweets, refreshments, etc. This extension of the closing hour for these shops undoubtedly

lends itself to a little trading not permitted during the extended time, but on the whole the regulations are being fairly well observed.

A large proportion of the shops in the area are small and the person serving is generally the householder.

The requirements as to ventilation and temperature are reasonably carried out and there is ample sanitary accommodation provided.

No application was received for a partial exemption order under Section 2 of the Shops Act, 1936.

### **SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.**

There are four privately owned swimming pools in the District, three in the Parish of Brewood and one in Lapley.

Three of these pools are supplied from the public water mains and one from a small stream.

### **ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.**

During the year three Council Houses and three other houses privately owned were found to be infested with Bed Bugs.

In all cases disinfection was carried out with hand sprays and a well known insecticide (Zaldecide). This method was found to be effective. So far nothing has been done in the district with regard to the fumigation of tenants' belongings before they go to Council Houses.

### **SCHOOLS.**

Gailey School. The extension of the water main was completed during the year and the school now has a proper supply.

### **HOUSING STATISTICS.**

#### **1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.**

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) (a) Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 743 |
| (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...  | 886 |

|  |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 329 |
| (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 847 |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38  |
| (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in in all respects reasonably fit for humam habitation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 291 |

## 2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notice.

|   |     |     |     |    |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers | ... | ... | ... | 96 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----|

## 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

|   |     |     |    |
|---|-----|-----|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | ... | 27 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders    | ... | ... | 5  |

TABLE SHOWING PROGRESS OF WORK DURING 1938 UNDER SECTION 11  
OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936.

| Address.                               | No. of Houses | Date of Official Representation | Date of Demolition Order | Date of Undertaking | Remarks                                       |
|--|---------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|
| ACTON and BEDNALI.<br>Joyces Lane      | 1             | 4/10/35                         | 29/11/38                 |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| BREWOD<br>High Green                   | 1             | 1/11/35                         | 20/3/36                  |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| Heir Bargeate Street                   | 1             | 21/2/36                         | 17/4/36                  |                     | Demolished 12/10/38                           |
| The Pavement                           | 1             | 21/2/36                         | 1/11/38                  |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| Sandy Lane                             | 6             | 25/11/36                        |                          |                     | Under consideration                           |
| Kiddemore Green                        | 1             | 15/6/37                         |                          | 7/9/37              | Repaired, end of 1938                         |
| Kiddemore Green                        | 2             | 15/6/37                         |                          | 9/6/38              | Being repaired, end of 1938                   |
| Hockerill Cottages                     | 2             | 25/1/38                         |                          | 1/11/38             | To be repaired                                |
| Bunsford                               | 1             | 25/1/38                         | 1/11/38                  |                     | Void, end of 1938                             |
| Stafford Street                        | 1             | 22/4/38                         |                          | 20/8/38             | Void, end of 1938. Not to be re-let           |
| Hyde Mill Lane                         | 1             | 22/4/38                         | 9/8/38                   |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| Stafford Street                        | 3             | 1/11/35                         |                          |                     | Under consideration                           |
| Four Ashes                             | 1             | 1/11/38                         |                          |                     | Void, end of 1938                             |
| CHESLYN HAY.<br>15, 17, 19 High Street | 3             | 22/2/35                         |                          | 6/9/35              | Repaired, 18/1/38                             |
| 23 and 25 High Street                  | 2             | 22/2/35                         |                          | 6/9/35              | Repaired, 18/1/38                             |
| 2, Littlewood Lane                     | 1             | 22/1/37                         |                          | 19/3/37             | Repaired, end of 1938                         |
| Chapel Square                          | 4             | 10/8/37                         | 20/11/37                 |                     | Being demolished end of 1938                  |
| Laney Green                            | 1             | 25/1/38                         | 29/11/38                 |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| 88 and 90, Low Street                  | 2             | 1/11/38                         |                          |                     | Under consideration                           |
| DUNSTON.<br>Toll House                 | 1             | 14/6/32                         | 9/8/38                   |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| ESSINGTON.<br>Colliers' Castle         | 8             | 2/11/37                         | 30/11/37                 |                     | Void, awaiting demolition                     |
| FEATHERSTONE.<br>Cannock Road          | 2             | 1/11/38                         |                          |                     | Under consideration                           |
| HATHERTON.<br>Trancars, Calf Heath     | 1             | 25/1/38                         |                          |                     | Owners to build bungalow in place of trancars |
| LAPLEY.<br>Marston Lane                | 2             | 9/8/35                          | 10/8/37                  | 27/11/35            | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| High Street                            | 1             | 9/8/35                          |                          |                     | Demolished                                    |
| Longnor                                | 2             | 21/2/36                         |                          |                     | Repaired, 1938                                |
| Bellhurst Lane                         | 3             | 10/7/36                         | 4/9/36                   |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| Mill Lane                              | 3             | 10/7/36                         |                          |                     | Under consideration                           |
| High Street                            | 3             | 10/7/36                         |                          |                     | Repaired 26/9/38                              |
| Opposite Post Office                   | 4             | 25/11/36                        |                          |                     | Altered and repaired                          |
| Providence Cott., Lapley               | 1             | 13/7/37                         |                          |                     | To be repaired                                |
| Marston Lane                           | 1             | 13/7/37                         | 4/1/38                   | 25/1/38             | Demolished, 27/9/38                           |
| Marston Lane                           | 1             | 13/7/37                         |                          |                     | To be demolished when void                    |
| Ivctsey Road                           | 1             | 14/6/38                         |                          | 18/8/38             | To be repaired                                |
| Bellhurst Lane                         | 1             | 14/6/38                         |                          |                     | Under consideration                           |
| High Street                            | 1             | 14/6/38                         |                          |                     | Under consideration                           |
| PENKBRIDGE.<br>Biddle's Bank           | 1             | 10/7/36                         | 4/9/36                   |                     | Demolished, 23/7/38                           |
| Whiston                                | 1             | 14/5/37                         | 13/7/37                  |                     | Demolished                                    |
| Cannock Road                           | 3             | 2/11/37                         | 4/1/38                   |                     | 2 still occupied, end 1938                    |
| Clay Street                            | 3             | 2/11/37                         | 4/1/38                   |                     | 2 still occupied, end 1938                    |
| Quarry Heath                           | 1             | 2/11/37                         | 4/1/38                   |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| Stone Cross                            | 2             | 2/11/37                         | 22/2/38                  |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| Biddle's Bank                          | 5             | 17/5/38                         | 9/8/38                   |                     | 4 still occupied, end of 1938                 |
| Watling Street, Gailey                 | 1             | 17/5/38                         | 9/8/38                   |                     | Still occupied, end of 1938                   |
| The Marsh                              | 2             | 14/6/38                         | 9/8/38                   |                     | Under consideration                           |
| SAREDON.<br>Laney Green                | 3             | 25/1/38                         | 1/11/38                  |                     | 1 occupied, end of 1938                       |
| SHARPSHILL.<br>Church Road             | 3             | 25/1/38                         |                          |                     | Under consideration                           |
| Elms Road                              | 3             | 25/1/38                         |                          |                     | Under consideration                           |
| SQUIRETON.<br>Budin Cottage            | 1             | 1/11/38                         |                          |                     | To be demolished                              |
| GREAT WYVILEY.<br>Quinton Cottages     | 3             | 18/4/35                         | 18/12/36                 |                     | Demolished                                    |
| 41, 43, 45, Churchbridge.              | 3             | 22/1/37                         | 11/5/37                  |                     | 2 occupied, end of 1938                       |
| 22, 24, 26, Churchbridge.              | 3             | 13/3/37                         | 22/4/38                  |                     | 1 occupied, end of 1938                       |





## HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

|                                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Total                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 142 |
| (1) By the Local Authority     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28  |
| (2) By Other Local Authorities | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0   |
| (3) By Other Bodies or Persons | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 114 |

Number of houses owned by the Council is 460. 261 of these were built under the 1919 Housing Act, 119 under the 1923 Housing Act, 8 under the 1930 Housing Act, 8 during 1932 (Unassisted Scheme), 12 during 1936, 24 during 1937, and 28 during 1938. The number of new houses erected in the whole of the area from 1920 to 1938 is 1937; of these, 1477 were erected by private enterprise and 460 by the Cannock Rural District Council.

New Houses erected from  
1920 to 1938 (inclusive)

| Parish.             | No. of Houses. |      | By Private Enterprise. | By Council. |
|---------------------|----------------|------|------------------------|-------------|
| Acton and Bednall   | ...            | 123  | 12                     | —           |
| Blymhill            | ...            | 145  | 1                      | —           |
| Brewood             | ...            | 866  | 147                    | 44          |
| Cheslyn Hay         | ...            | 810  | 91                     | 42          |
| Coppenhall          | ...            | 30   | 10                     | —           |
| Dunston             | ...            | 78   | 5                      | —           |
| Essington           | ...            | 776  | 240                    | 64          |
| Featherstone        | ...            | 201  | 189                    | —           |
| Hatherton           | ...            | 140  | 20                     | —           |
| Hilton              | ...            | 46   | —                      | 34          |
| Huntington          | ...            | 322  | 69                     | 160         |
| Lapley              | ...            | 200  | 20                     | 10          |
| Penkridge           | ...            | 673  | 117                    | 32          |
| Saredon             | ...            | 113  | 38                     | —           |
| Shareshill          | ...            | 90   | 4                      | —           |
| Stretton            | ...            | 41   | —                      | —           |
| Teddesley Hay       | ...            | 23   | 1                      | —           |
| Weston-under-Lizard | ...            | 76   | 2                      | —           |
| Wyrley, Great       | ...            | 1050 | 517                    | 74          |
| TOTALS              | ...            | 5823 | 1477                   | 460         |

## OVERCROWDING.

The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year was 68. These cases were distributed as follows:—

| Parish.               | Total No. | Overcrowded Houses<br>Bedrooms |    |    |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|----|----|
|                       |           | 1                              | 2  | 3  |
| Acton and Bednall ... | 2         | —                              | 2  | —  |
| Blymhill ... ..       | 2         | —                              | 1  | 1  |
| Brewood ... ..        | 4         | —                              | 4  | —  |
| Cheslyn Hay ... ..    | 2         | —                              | 1  | 1  |
| Essington ... ..      | 7         | —                              | 5  | 2  |
| Featherstone ... ..   | 6         | —                              | —  | 6  |
| Hatherton ... ..      | 4         | —                              | 4  | —  |
| Hilton ... ..         | 3         | —                              | —  | 3  |
| Huntington ... ..     | 12        | —                              | 1  | 11 |
| Lapley ... ..         | 3         | 1                              | 2  | —  |
| Penkridge ... ..      | 16        | 1                              | 12 | 3  |
| Wyrley, Great ... ..  | 7         | 1                              | 1  | 5  |
|                       | —         | —                              | —  | —  |
| TOTALS ...            | 68        | 3                              | 33 | 32 |
|                       | —         | —                              | —  | —  |

Of the above houses, 9 are Council Houses and 12 are Council Hutments, as follows:—

| Parish               | Houses | Hutments |
|----------------------|--------|----------|
| Cheslyn Hay ... ..   | 1      | —        |
| Essington ... ..     | —      | 2        |
| Hilton ... ..        | 3      | —        |
| Huntington ... ..    | 3      | 7        |
| Wyrley, Great ... .. | 2      | 3        |

During the year 25 cases of overcrowding were relieved, 13 of these being placed in Council Houses or Hutments. There were, however, 13 families which became overcrowded during 1937.

The following is a brief summary of the position at the end of 1937:—

|   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year       | ...    | 68  |
| No. of families dwelling therein                          | ... .. | 68  |
| No. of persons dwelling therein                           | ... .. | 538 |
| No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | ...    | 13  |
| No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year     | ...    | 25  |
| No. of persons concerned in such cases                    | ... .. | 214 |

## ANTHRAX.

During the year seven cases of Anthrax were reported. The animals affected were, along with infected litter, consumed by fire on the premises, and all infected farm buildings were disinfected.

## **PETROLEUM ACTS.**

There are 25 persons in the area who are licensed to store petrol for sale and 19 persons for private use. The petrol at 37 of these places is stored in underground tanks and are provided with pumps. There are six persons who are licensed to store Carbide of Calcium. The storage at these places is satisfactory.

41 Petrol Licences were renewed and 2 new ones granted; 6 Carbide Licences were renewed.

## **CANAL BOATS ACTS, 1877-84.**

Five Canal Boats were inspected during 1938. All boats were properly marked and all certificates were produced.

The boats were in good repair, and no infringements were found. No case of infectious disease was reported and no boat was detained for cleansing or disinfection.

The Council is not a Registration Authority for canal boats.

## **TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, Etc.**

Camping in tents is becoming increasingly popular, though practically all the campers only come for short periods, chiefly at Whitsuntide and during August Bank Holiday week.

The best way to deal with these tents is to take any nuisance which may be caused under the Bye-laws and the Public Health Act, 1936.

385 visits were made to various camping sites in the district.

The sanitary arrangements were found to be fairly satisfactory and the surroundings were kept clean and free from litter. On the whole the campers are becoming more used to camp life and consequently are keeping the places in better condition.

Seven sites were used for camping purposes during the year, and all of these were licensed under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area was 800 during the August holidays.

## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

During the year 51 inspections of cowsheds and 28 of dairies were made. Re-inspections numbered 111. A considerable amount of work has been done during the year in bringing the farms where "Accredited" milk is produced, up to an efficient

standard, especially in providing steam sterilising plants. The value of steam for the sterilisation of all milk utensils is being increasingly appreciated by milk producers.

The following Licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936:—

**Supplementary Licences.**

|              |                    |             |
|--------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Pasteurised. | Tuberculin Tested. | Accredited. |
| 5            | 5                  | 5           |

**Dealer's Licences.**

|              |                    |             |
|--------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Pasteurised. | Tuberculin Tested. | Accredited. |
| 1            | 3                  | 1           |

**Pasteuriser's Licences.**

1

During the inspection of slaughterhouses and butchers' shops, no serious infringements were found and any carcase or portions of carcasses were willingly surrendered. The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected and condemned:—

|  | Cattle<br>including<br>Cows | Calves      | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs  |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Number killed (approx.) ...  | 630                         | Very<br>few | 1450                  | 1180  |
| Number inspected ... ..  | 195                         | ...         | 125                   | 68    |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis—  |                             |             |                       |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned ...  | ...                         | ...         | ...                   | ...   |
| Carcasses of which some part<br>or organ was condemned ...                                   | 1                           | ...         | ...                   | 1     |
| Percentage of the number in-<br>spected affected with disease<br>other than Tuberculosis ... | 0.51%                       | ...         | ...                   | 1.47% |
| Tuberculosis only—   |                             |             |                       |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned ...  | ...                         | ...         | ...                   | ...   |
| Carcasses of which some part<br>or organ was condemned ...                                   | 1                           | ...         | ...                   | 6     |
| Percentage of the number in-<br>spected affected with<br>Tuberculosis ... ..                 | 0.51%                       | ...         | ...                   | 8.82% |

**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

One application for a Licence was received and granted under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, and 26 Renewal Licences were granted.

**Adulteration, Etc.**

The Staffordshire County Council is the authority for the administration of the Food and Drugs Act.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the following figures regarding action taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1928, and milk sampling by Officers of the County Council, in the Cannock Rural District during 1938.

List of Samples under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928:—

| Article.          |     |     |     | Genuine. | Adulterated. |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|--------------|
| Milk, ordinary    | ... | ... |     | 14       | —            |
| Milk, Pasteurised | ... | ... |     | 2        | —            |
| Butter            | ... | ... |     | 1        | —            |
| Cream             | ... | ... | ... | 1        | —            |
| Cod Liver Oil     | ... | ... |     | 1        | —            |
| Cocoa             | ... | ... | ... | 1        | —            |
| Total             |     |     |     | 20       | —            |

Particulars of samples taken by the Official Milk Sampling Officers:—

| Designated:—          | Total. | Cleanliness   |                 |  | Tubercle Bacilli found. |
|-----------------------|--------|---------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------|
|                       |        | Satisfactory. | Unsatisfactory. |  |                         |
| “ Tuberculin Tested ” | 1      | 1             | —               |  | —                       |
| “ Accredited ”        | 2      | 1             | 1               |  | —                       |
| “ Pasteurised ”       | 5      | 5             | —               |  | —                       |
|                       | 8      | 7             | 1               |  | —                       |

All the Pasteurised Samples passed the Phospatase test.

|              |     |     |      |    |    |    |
|--------------|-----|-----|------|----|----|----|
| Undesignated | ... | ... | *113 | 48 | 32 | 11 |
|--------------|-----|-----|------|----|----|----|

\*33 of the samples were not examined bacteriologically and two were not submitted to the biological test.



## **CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.**

The chemical and bacteriological examination of food, water, milk, etc., is undertaken by the Staffordshire County Council at their well-appointed Laboratories at Stafford.

## **PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

During 1938 there was, throughout the whole area, an increased incidence of the commoner Infectious Diseases. Of the non-notifiable ones the most prevalent were Influenza, Chicken Pox, and Whooping Cough. Influenza, however, was not so severe as in 1937. Whooping Cough in the spring months was the cause of three deaths in children under one, and late in the year was so widespread in the Bishop's Wood part of Brewood Parish, that the small school there was closed for a fortnight.

Among the notifiable diseases, Scarlet Fever, rampant the year before, continued unabated in the early months, especially in Great Wyrley, and necessitated the closure of the two schools. The type was comparatively mild and there were no deaths. Diphtheria increased in incidence in November and December in Cheslyn Hay. It was apparently what is called the "Gravis" type, and many of the children affected were extremely ill. There were four deaths, the most for many years. The Dysentery epidemic at the end of 1937 also continued into 1938, although to a less degree. There were few complications and no one required hospital treatment. The co-operation of the School Medical Department and the Headmasters and Headmistresses was of great value, especially in regard to early information about infectious diseases. The tables at the end show the incidence of the main Notifiable Diseases during the past ten years.

### **SCARLET FEVER.**

Notifications, 105; Deaths, nil. Death Rate, 1,000 living, England and Wales, .01. Case Rate for District per 1,000 population, 4.84; England and Wales, 2.41.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified, though more than the average, was little more than half that of the year previous. Though there were sporadic cases throughout the whole district, most occurred in Great Wyrley. As there were

also, at that time, in that Parish, many throat affections, the probability was that the causal organism manifested itself in different ways in different people and thereby rendered impossible an effective control of the epidemic. Though the closing of the day and Sunday Schools and a small local cinema seemed to have a marked effect in preventing the further spread of infection it is more probable that the exhaustion of the susceptible members of the population was the major factor. The type continued to be mild in character though there were numerous heart lesions. Approximately half the notified cases were left at home as the house conditions were satisfactory and the risk of infection small.

### DIPHTHERIA.

Notifications, 46; Deaths, 4. Death Rate per 1,000 living, 0.184; Death Rate per 1,000 living, England and Wales, 0.07. Case Rate for District for 1,000 population, 2.12; England and Wales, 1.58. Cost of Anti-Toxin: Hospital, £65 14s. 6d.; General Practitioners, £15 14s. 2d. Cost of Immunisation Material, £51 17s. 0d.

There was 46 cases of Diphtheria notified during the year. This is more than there has been recorded ever before. Forty-five were admitted to Hospital. The majority of the cases lived in Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay, and towards the end of the year there was a definite epidemic in Cheslyn Hay among pupils mainly of the Senior School. Systematic swabbing of the children in the affected classes revealed several carriers, who were, in most cases, removed to Hospital. Seven of the children notified had been immunised against Diphtheria within the previous few years. Of those seven only one had an ordinary severe attack of Diphtheria, the others, even with marked throat symptoms, were quite mild cases with little or no toxic effects. There seems little doubt that those children would have had much more marked toxæmia and probably complications if they had not been immunised. There were four deaths, one a child of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years who died the morning after admission. The mother and baby sister of the child were also in Hospital then, extremely ill with Diphtheria. The others were two children of seven years and one of fourteen. The two of seven died three days after being admitted to Hospital, while the boy of fourteen was in Hospital about a fortnight. They had all been ill several days before admission.

## IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Immunisation against Diphtheria was continued in 1938 in the more urban schools, and two-thirds of the parents of the entrants consented to have their children injected. This was a much more satisfactory figure than was ever previously attained even although the actual percentage varied from 90 per cent. to 37 per cent. in different schools. As since 1933 only entrants have been done the number of immunised children in the schools increases yearly. Since the scheme commenced in 1929, more than 2,000 children have received injections in schools and welfare centres and probably some 1,100 of these are still at school, approximately 37 per cent. of the school population of this District. The following tables show the numbers for 1938, the numbers for the past ten years, and the numbers on the roll in the schools. Owing to the numerous small epidemics of the various infectious diseases there was a high absentee rate during the year, and the number who received the complete course and test was only two-thirds of the number of children whose parents desired it. The material used was Toxoid Anti-toxin Floccules (T.A.F.) in three doses of 1, 1 and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  c.c's.

### IMMUNISED DURING 1938.

| School           | No. of Acceptances | Number Immunised |           | Number Schicked | Result   |          |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|----------|
|                  |                    | Wholly           | Partially |                 | Negative | Positive |
| Featherstone ... | 55                 | 49               | 4         | 44              | 44       | —        |
| Essington ...    | 37                 | 30               | 4         | 23              | 23       | —        |
| Shareshill ...   | 11                 | 8                | 2         | 7               | 6        | —        |
| Huntington ...   | 55                 | 38               | 6         | 28              | 31       | —        |
| Brewood R.C. ... | 13                 | 12               | 1         | 14              | 14       | —        |
| Brewood C.E. ... | 30                 | 26               | —         | 26              | 26       | —        |
| Cheslyn Hay ...  | 52                 | 40               | 9         | 32              | 29       | —        |
| Great Wyrley ... | 40                 | 33               | 5         | 30              | 27       | —        |
| Landywood ...    | 37                 | 30               | 5         | 23              | 21       | —        |
| TOTALS ...       | 330                | 266              | 36        | 227             | 221      | —        |

# IMMUNISED 1929-1938.

| School            | No.<br>on<br>Roll | 1929 | 1930 | 1931 | 1932 | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | Total |
|-------------------|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Landywood ...     | 236               | 35   | 33   |      |      | 37   |      |      | 18   |      | 30   | 153   |
| Cheslyn Hay ...   | 306               | 14   | 23   |      |      | 7    |      |      | 21   |      | 40   | 105   |
| Great Wyrley ...  | 338               | 21   | 19   |      |      | 12   |      |      | 9    |      | 33   | 94    |
| Bednall ...       | 31                |      | 25   |      |      |      |      | 10   |      | 5    |      | 40    |
| Bushbury ...      | —                 |      |      | 85   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 85    |
| Essington ...     | 267               |      |      | 124  |      |      | 26   |      | 35   |      | 30   | 215   |
| Huntington ...    | 379               |      |      | 114  |      | 13   |      |      | 43   |      | 38   | 208   |
| Featherstone ...  | 276               |      |      | 41   |      |      | 36   |      | 43   |      | 49   | 169   |
| Shareshill ...    | 141               |      |      | 76   |      |      | 18   |      | 9    |      | 8    | 111   |
| Brewood R.C. ...  | 53                |      |      |      | 19   | 7    |      |      | 5    |      | 12   | 43    |
| Brewood C.E. ...  | 167               |      |      |      | 71   | 6    |      |      | 19   |      | 26   | 122   |
| Bishopswood ...   | 37                |      |      |      | 11   |      |      | 6    |      | 6    |      | 23    |
| Coven ...         | 143               |      |      |      | 51   | 11   |      | 8    |      | 27   |      | 97    |
| Dunston ...       | 30                |      |      |      | 32   |      |      | 4    |      | 2    |      | 38    |
| Gailey ...        | 36                |      |      |      | 20   | 9    |      | 3    |      | 8    |      | 40    |
| Penkridge ...     | 222               |      |      |      | 191  |      |      | 20   |      | 22   |      | 233   |
| Wheaton Aston ... | 88                |      |      |      | 67   | 1    | 1    | 19   |      | 10   |      | 98    |
| Stretton ...      | 29                |      |      |      | 18   |      | 5    | 4    |      | 9    |      | 36    |
| Blymhill ...      | 67                |      |      |      |      |      | 29   |      |      | 4    |      | 33    |
| Weston-u-Lizard   | 46                |      |      |      |      |      | 14   |      |      | 5    |      | 19    |
| TOTALS ...        | 2982              | 70   | 100  | 440  | 480  | 103  | 129  | 74   | 202  | 98   | 266  | 1962  |

## PNEUMONIA.

Notifications, 37; Deaths, 15. Case Rate for district per 1,000 population, 1.71. Case Rate for England and Wales, 1.10.

The quarterly incidence of the disease was:—

|                   | Quarter<br>ending<br>31st March. | Quarter<br>ending<br>30th June. | Quarter<br>ending<br>30th Sept. | Quarter<br>ending<br>31st Dec. |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Notifications ... | 17                               | 11                              | 2                               | 7                              |
| Deaths ...        | 7                                | 4                               | 3                               | 1                              |

There were 37 cases of Pneumonia notified during the year, two less than the year previous, and there were fifteen deaths. All ages were affected and most of the cases occurred in the first quarter, and likewise most of the deaths. An accompanying high incidence of Influenza may have tended to increase the Pneumonia rate then. Five of those who died were over fifty years of age and three were under one year. Ten of the fifteen deaths were males. One of the deaths in the third quarter had not previously been notified.



### **OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.**

Two cases were notified. None were removed to Hospital.

### **ERYSIPELAS.**

Notifications, 9; Deaths, 0. Case Rate for District, .415; Case Rate for England Wales, .4.

### **PUERPERAL PYREXIA.**

Notifications, 3. Deaths, 0.

Two cases were admitted to Hospital. As mentioned before, this is the first time on record that there were no deaths.

### **DYSENTERY.**

The epidemic of the winter of 1937 continued into the early months of 1938 though as far as could be judged, to a much less degree. There were 13 cases notified, but there were few if any complications, and none required removal to Hospital for treatment.

### **CEREBRO-SPINAL-MENINGITIS.**

There were four notified cases in this District in 1938, and there were three deaths. Of the notified cases, one was a child at Huntington, one was a domestic servant at Penkridge and two were men, miners of Hilton and Featherstone. As the two men worked underground in the same part of one colliery, it was thought advisable that the other men in that underground shift should take some precautions and they all gargled with a chlorine solution for several days, before starting and after finishing their work.

### **ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.**

One child, a four year old boy, was notified as suffering from Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis. He was removed to Walsall Fever Hospital for treatment, and later, on his discharge from there, was admitted to the Standon Hall Orthopaedic Hospital.



## TUBERCULOSIS.

|  |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| Deaths from Tuberculosis of the Lung                       | ... | ... | 5   |
| Death Rate per 1,000 living                                | ... | ... | .23 |
| Deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis                    | ... | ... | 2   |
| Death Rate per 1,000 living from all forms of Tuberculosis | ... | ... | .32 |
| Notifications received during the year:—                   |     |     |     |
| Pulmonary  | ... | ... | 11  |
| Non-Pulmonary  | ... | ... | 6   |
| Notifications of Deaths received during the year:—         |     |     |     |
| Pulmonary  | ... | ... | 5   |
| Non-Pulmonary  | ... | ... | 2   |

The number of notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis in this District continued to fall, and there were also fewer deaths than usual. There was no marked similarity of occupation except that three of the men were engaged in coal-mining. The number of those of school age and under was still rather high, and though two suffered from glands of the neck, and one from an affected knee joint, two suffered from pulmonary lesions. All who died were notified cases, except a child of eight months who died in Hospital from Tubercular Meningitis. Four of the deaths were of those first notified in 1938.

The total number on the register at the end of the year for all forms was 157.

The following table shows the number of cases of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the various Parishes for the past ten years and the total deaths.

# TUBERCULOSIS

| PARISH           | 1929 |    | 1930 |    | 1931 |    | 1932 |    | 1933 |    | 1934 |    | 1935 |    | 1936 |    | 1937 |    | 1938 |    | TOTALS |    |
|------------------|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|--------|----|
|                  | P    | NP | P    | NP | P    | NP | P    | NP | P    | NP | P    | NP | P    | NP | P    | NP | P    | NP | P    | NP | P      | NP |
| Acton & Bednall  | 2    | —  | 1    | —  | 1    | —  | —    | —  | 2    | 1  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | 1    | —  | —    | —  | 7      | 1  |
| Brewood ...      | 2    | 1  | 1    | 2  | 5    | 2  | 1    | —  | —    | 1  | 1    | —  | 1    | —  | 2    | —  | 1    | —  | 3    | —  | 17     | 6  |
| Cheslyn Hay ...  | 4    | —  | 3    | —  | 8    | 2  | 1    | 2  | 3    | 3  | 5    | —  | 2    | 1  | 7    | —  | 1    | 1  | —    | 2  | 34     | 11 |
| Coppenhall ...   | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —      | —  |
| Dunston ...      | —    | —  | 1    | 2  | —    | —  | —    | 2  | 2    | —  | 5    | —  | —    | —  | —    | 1  | 1    | 1  | 1    | 1  | 10     | 7  |
| Essington ...    | 5    | —  | 5    | 1  | 8    | 3  | 5    | —  | 1    | 1  | 1    | 1  | 3    | —  | 1    | —  | 2    | 3  | 2    | —  | 33     | 9  |
| Featherstone ... | —    | 2  | —    | —  | 1    | —  | 1    | 1  | 1    | —  | —    | —  | 2    | 3  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | 5      | 6  |
| Hatherton ...    | —    | —  | 2    | —  | —    | —  | 1    | 1  | —    | 3  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | 1  | 1    | —  | 4      | 5  |
| Hilton ...       | —    | —  | —    | —  | 1    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | 1  | 1    | 1  | —    | —  | 3      | 1  |
| Huntington ...   | 2    | 4  | 3    | —  | —    | 1  | 3    | 2  | 2    | 1  | 4    | —  | 2    | —  | 3    | —  | —    | 2  | 2    | —  | 21     | 10 |
| Lapley ...       | —    | —  | —    | 1  | —    | —  | —    | 1  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | 1  | —    | —  | —      | 3  |
| Penkridge ...    | 3    | —  | 2    | —  | 4    | 1  | 2    | 1  | 1    | 1  | 2    | —  | 1    | —  | 3    | —  | 2    | —  | —    | 1  | 20     | 4  |
| Saredon ...      | 2    | —  | —    | 2  | —    | —  | 2    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | 1    | 1  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | 5      | 3  |
| Shareshill ...   | 1    | —  | 1    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | 2    | 1  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | 4      | 1  |
| Stretton ...     | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —      | —  |
| Teddesley ...    | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —      | —  |
| Great Wyrley...  | 4    | 2  | 3    | —  | 3    | 3  | 5    | 3  | 7    | 1  | 3    | 2  | 5    | 2  | —    | 1  | 2    | 4  | 1    | 1  | 33     | 19 |
| Bushbury ...     | —    | —  | —    | —  | 3    | —  | 2    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | 5      | —  |
| Blymhill ...     | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | 1    | —  | 1    | —  | —    | —  | 2      | —  |
| Weston ...       | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —    | —  | —      | —  |
| Total Cases...   | 25   | 9  | 22   | 8  | 34   | 12 | 23   | 13 | 19   | 12 | 23   | 4  | 17   | 7  | 17   | 2  | 12   | 13 | 11   | 6  | 203    | 86 |
| Deaths ...       | 4    | 3  | 15   | 2  | 13   | 7  | 14   | 1  | 12   | 1  | 8    | 7  | 8    | 2  | 7    | 2  | 8    | 5  | 5    | 2  | 94     | 32 |

TABLE 1

## CAUSES OF DEATH AND DISTRIBUTION, 1938

| CAUSES OF DEATH                                   | Male | Female | Acton and Bednall | Blymhill | Brewood | Coppenhall | Dunston | Featherstone | Lapley | Penkridge | Stretton | Teddesley Hay | Weston-u-Lizard | Cheslyn Hay | Essington | Great Wyrley | Hatherton | Hilton | Huntington | Saredon | Shareshill |
|---|------|--------|-------------------|----------|---------|------------|---------|--------------|--------|-----------|----------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------|------------|---------|------------|
| Small Pox ... ..                                  |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Typhoid & Parat. Fever                            |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Measles ... ..                                    |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Scarlet Fever ... ..                              |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Whooping Cough ... ..                             | 1    | 2      |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             | 1         | 1            |           | 1      |            |         |            |
| Diphtheria ... ..                                 | 3    | 1      |                   |          | 1       |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 | 3           |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Influenza... ..                                   | 2    |        |                   | 1        |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              | 1         |        |            |         |            |
| Enccephalitis Lethargica                          |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...                          | 1    | 2      |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        | 1         |          |               |                 |             | 1         |              |           |        | 1          |         |            |
| Tuberculosis of Respir-<br>atory System ... ..    | 4    | 1      |                   |          | 1       |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 | 1           | 1         | 1            |           |        | 1          |         |            |
| Other Tuberculosis ... ..                         | 1    | 1      |                   |          |         |            | 1       |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           | 1      |            |         |            |
| Syphilis ... ..                                   |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| G.P.I. Tabes, etc. ... ..                         |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Cancer ... ..                                     | 12   | 18     |                   | 2        | 3       |            | 1       |              | 2      | 2         |          |               | 1               | 5           | 4         | 7            |           |        | 2          |         | 1          |
| Diabetes ... ..                                   | 1    | 3      |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 | 1           | 3         |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage,<br>etc. ... ..              | 4    | 3      |                   | 1        | 1       |            |         | 1            |        |           | 1        |               |                 | 2           |           |              |           |        |            | 1       |            |
| Heart Disease ... ..                              | 30   | 31     | 1                 | 1        | 9       | 1          |         |              | 2      | 10        |          |               | 1               | 12          | 8         | 9            |           |        | 2          | 2       | 3          |
| Aneurysm ... ..                                   |      | 1      |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             | 1         |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Other Circ. Diseases ... ..                       | 2    | 5      |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        | 1         |          |               |                 |             | 4         | 1            |           |        | 1          |         |            |
| Bronchitis ... ..                                 | 7    | 3      |                   |          | 1       |            |         | 1            | 1      | 3         |          |               |                 | 1           | 1         | 1            |           |        | 1          |         |            |
| Pneumonia (all forms)... ..                       | 10   | 5      |                   |          | 1       |            |         | 2            |        |           |          |               |                 | 3           | 3         | 2            |           |        | 2          |         | 2          |
| Other Resp. Diseases ... ..                       | 1    | 2      |                   | 1        |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 | 1           |           | 1            |           |        |            |         |            |
| Peptic Ulcer ... ..                               |      | 1      |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 | 1           |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Diarrhoea under 2 yrs....                         | 3    | 1      |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             | 2         | 2            |           |        |            |         |            |
| Appendicitis ... ..                               | 1    | 1      |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        | 1         |          |               | 1               |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..                         |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Other Liver Diseases ... ..                       | 2    |        |                   |          |         |            | 1       |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              | 1         |        |            |         |            |
| Other Digestive Diseases                          | 5    | 3      | 1                 | 1        | 2       |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 | 1           | 1         | 2            |           |        |            |         |            |
| Nephritis ... ..                                  | 2    |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           | 2            |           |        |            |         |            |
| Puerperal Sepsis ... ..                           |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Other Puerperal Diseases                          |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Congenital Debility,<br>Premature Birth, etc. ... | 9    | 9      |                   | 2        | 5       |            |         | 1            |        | 3         |          |               |                 | 2           | 1         | 1            |           |        | 3          |         |            |
| Senility ... ..                                   | 9    | 10     |                   | 1        | 3       |            |         | 1            |        | 5         |          |               |                 | 6           | 1         | 1            |           |        |            |         | 1          |
| Suicide ... ..                                    | 3    |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              | 1      |           |          |               |                 | 2           |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |
| Other Violence ... ..                             | 8    | 3      | 1                 |          | 2       |            |         |              | 2      |           |          |               |                 | 2           |           | 1            |           |        | 3          |         |            |
| Other Defined Diseases...                         | 13   | 3      |                   |          |         |            | 1       |              | 3      | 1         |          |               |                 | 3           | 1         | 1            |           |        | 2          |         | 2          |
| Ill-defined or not known                          |      |        |                   |          |         |            |         |              |        |           |          |               |                 |             |           |              |           |        |            |         |            |

TABLE 2

INCIDENCE OF SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA AND  
PNEUMONIA DURING THE TEN YEARS—  
1929—1938

|                      | Acton and Bedball | Brewood | Cheslyn Hay | Coppenball | Dunston | Essington | Featherstone | Hatherton | Hilton | Huntington | Lapley | Penkridge | Saredon | Shareshill | Stretton | Teddesley Hay | Great Wyrley | Bushbury ** | Blymhill * | Weston-u-Lizard * | Totals |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------|-------------|------------|---------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------|------------|--------|-----------|---------|------------|----------|---------------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------------|--------|
| <b>Scarlet Fever</b> |                   |         |             |            |         |           |              |           |        |            |        |           |         |            |          |               |              |             |            |                   |        |
| 1929 ...             |                   | 1       |             |            |         | 3         |              | 2         |        | 23         |        | 2         |         |            |          |               | 19           | 3           |            |                   | 53     |
| 1930 ...             | 2                 | 2       | 3           |            |         | 8         | 1            |           |        | 11         | 1      | 2         |         |            |          |               | 5            | 8           |            |                   | 43     |
| 1931 ...             |                   | 1       | 6           |            |         | 1         |              | 3         |        | 1          |        | 3         | 1       | 2          |          |               | 2            | 1           |            |                   | 21     |
| 1932 ...             |                   | 13      | 1           |            |         | 4         | 1            |           | 1      | 3          |        |           |         |            |          |               | 9            | 5           |            |                   | 37     |
| 1933 ...             | 1                 | 2       | 1           |            |         | 1         | 5            | 1         |        | 2          |        | 3         |         |            |          |               | 4            | 2           |            |                   | 22     |
| 1934 ...             | 1                 | 9       | 33          | 3          |         | 6         |              | 5         | 2      | 4          | 1      | 1         | 2       |            |          |               | 14           |             |            |                   | 81     |
| 1935 ...             |                   | 14      | 18          |            |         | 15        | 5            | 1         |        | 3          | 2      |           | 1       |            |          |               | 5            |             |            |                   | 64     |
| 1936 ...             |                   | 28      | 10          |            |         | 6         |              |           |        | 7          | 1      | 22        | 1       |            |          |               | 14           |             | 1          |                   | 90     |
| 1937 ...             | 1                 | 19      | 37          |            |         | 24        | 1            | 12        |        | 28         | 1      | 14        |         | 1          | 2        |               | 49           |             |            |                   | 189    |
| 1938 ...             | 3                 | 1       | 19          |            |         | 6         | 6            | 3         | 1      | 8          | 4      |           | 3       | 1          |          |               | 48           |             | 1          | 1                 | 105    |
| <b>Diphtheria</b>    |                   |         |             |            |         |           |              |           |        |            |        |           |         |            |          |               |              |             |            |                   |        |
| 1929 ...             | 1                 | 7       | 17          |            |         | 1         |              |           |        | 3          |        |           | 1       | 1          |          |               | 11           |             |            |                   | 42     |
| 1930 ...             | 13                | 5       | 4           |            |         | 3         |              |           |        |            | 1      | 6         |         |            |          | 2             | 5            |             |            |                   | 39     |
| 1931 ...             |                   | 2       | 10          |            |         |           |              |           |        | 1          | 1      | 6         | 1       | 1          | 1        |               | 4            |             |            |                   | 27     |
| 1932 ...             |                   | 3       | 10          |            |         |           |              | 1         |        | 12         |        | 1         |         | 1          |          |               | 3            |             |            |                   | 31     |
| 1933 ...             |                   |         | 2           |            |         |           |              | 1         |        | 3          |        | 1         |         |            |          |               | 4            |             |            |                   | 12     |
| 1934 ...             |                   | 1       | 3           |            |         | 2         | 4            |           |        | 1          |        | 1         |         |            |          |               | 4            |             |            |                   | 16     |
| 1935 ...             |                   | 2       | 2           |            |         | 1         | 14           |           |        | 6          |        |           | 1       |            |          |               | 2            |             |            |                   | 28     |
| 1936 ...             |                   |         | 3           |            |         | 2         |              |           |        | 1          |        |           |         |            |          |               | 7            |             | 1          |                   | 14     |
| 1937 ...             | 1                 | 1       |             |            | 2       |           |              | 3         |        | 2          |        | 3         |         |            |          |               | 21           |             |            |                   | 33     |
| 1938 ...             |                   | 3       | 24          |            |         | 3         |              | 1         |        | 3          | 1      | 1         |         |            |          |               | 10           |             |            |                   | 46     |
| <b>Pneumonia</b>     |                   |         |             |            |         |           |              |           |        |            |        |           |         |            |          |               |              |             |            |                   |        |
| 1929 ...             |                   | 1       | 5           |            |         | 14        | 1            |           | 1      | 5          | 1      |           | 1       | 4          |          |               | 5            |             |            |                   | 38     |
| 1930 ...             |                   |         | 2           |            |         | 2         |              | 2         |        | 1          |        | 3         |         |            |          |               | 2            |             |            |                   | 12     |
| 1931 ...             |                   | 2       | 5           | 1          |         | 1         | 2            |           |        | 2          |        | 12        |         | 1          |          |               | 2            |             |            |                   | 28     |
| 1932 ...             |                   | 2       | 2           |            | 1       | 3         | 1            |           |        | 2          | 1      | 4         | 1       |            | 1        |               | 4            |             |            |                   | 22     |
| 1933 ...             | 1                 | 3       | 2           |            |         | 1         | 2            |           | 2      |            |        | 5         | 1       |            |          |               | 2            |             |            |                   | 19     |
| 1934 ...             | 2                 | 1       | 2           |            | 1       | 2         | 3            |           |        | 1          |        | 3         |         | 1          |          |               | 3            |             |            |                   | 19     |
| 1935 ...             |                   |         | 3           |            |         | 3         | 3            | 1         | 1      | 1          |        | 11        |         | 1          |          |               | 5            |             |            |                   | 29     |
| 1936 ...             |                   |         | 7           | 1          | 2       | 4         | 3            | 2         | 1      | 2          |        | 2         |         |            |          |               | 7            |             | 1          |                   | 32     |
| 1937 ...             | 1                 |         | 7           |            |         | 1         | 2            | 1         | 1      | 1          |        | 7         | 1       | 1          |          |               | 15           |             | 1          |                   | 39     |
| 1938 ...             | 4                 | 2       | 2           |            |         | 6         | 1            |           | 2      | 1          | 2      | 11        |         | 1          |          |               | 4            |             | 1          |                   | 37     |

\*\* Transferred to Wolverhampton, 1934

\* Transferred to this area, 1934

TABLE 3.

## List of Notifiable Diseases arranged according to Ages and Parishes

| Notifiable Disease | No. of Cases | No. Removed to Hospital | No. Died | Ages and Total No. of Cases |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |      |      |      | Parish Distribution of Cases |          |         |             |           |         |           |              |           |        |            |        |           |         |            |          |          |        |              |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    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  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |  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|                    |              |                         |          |                             |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |      |      |      | Acton and Bed.               | Blymhill | Brewood | Cheslyn Hay | Copenhall | Dunston | Essington | Featherstone | Hatherton | Hilton | Huntington | Lapley | Penkridge | Saredon | Shareshill | Stretton | Taddeley | Weston | Great Wyrlay |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    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|                    |              |                         |          | Under 1 Year                | 1 + | 2 + | 3 + | 4 + | 5 + | 10 + | 15 + | 20 + | 35 + | 45 + |                              |          |         |             |           |         |           |              |           |        |            |        |           |         |            |          |          |        |              | 65 + |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    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| Small Pox ...      | ...          | ...                     | ...      | ...                         | 1   | 3   | 1   | 1   | 23  | 7    | 5    | 5    | ...  | ...  | ...                          | ...      | ...     | ...         | 3         | 24      | ...       | ...          | ...       | 3      | 1          | ...    | 3         | 1       | ...        | ...      | ...      | ...    | ...          | ...  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 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TABLE 4.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS  
DURING THE YEAR 1938.

| DISEASE                                    | Total<br>Cases<br>Notified | Cases<br>admitted to<br>Hospital | Total<br>Deaths |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Smallpox        ...    ...    ...    ...   | —                          | —                                | —               |
| Scarlet Fever        ...    ...    ...     | 105                        | 56                               | —               |
| Diphtheria        ...    ...    ...    ... | 46                         | 45                               | 4               |
| Enteric Fever, including Paratyoid         | —                          | —                                | —               |
| Puerperal Pyrexia    ...    ...    ...     | 3                          | 2                                | —               |
| Pneumonia        ...    ...    ...    ...  | 37                         | 9                                | 15              |
| Erysipelas        ...    ...    ...    ... | 9                          | 3                                | —               |
| Enccephalitis Lethargica    ...    ...     | —                          | —                                | —               |
| Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis        ...       | 4                          | 4                                | 3               |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum        ...           | 2                          | —                                | —               |
| Poliomyelitis        ...    ...    ...     | 1                          | 1                                | —               |
| Dysentery        ...    ...    ...    ...  | 13                         | 1                                | —               |

TABLE 5

## TUBERCULOSIS, YEAR 1938

| AGE PERIODS     | NEW CASES |   |               |   | DEATHS                       |                              |               |              |
|-----------------|-----------|---|---------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                 | Pulmonary |   | Non-Pulmonary |   | Pulmonary                    |                              | Non-Pulmonary |              |
|                 | M         | F | M             | F | M                            | F                            | M             | F            |
| 0 to 1 year ... | 1         | — | 1             | — | <del>1</del>                 | —                            | 1             | —            |
| 1 and upwards   | —         | — | —             | — | —                            | —                            | —             | —            |
| 5 „ ...         | 1         | — | 1             | — | —                            | —                            | —             | —            |
| 10 „ ..         | 1         | — | —             | 3 | —                            | —                            | —             | —            |
| 15 „ ...        | 1         | 1 | —             | — | 1                            | <del>1</del>                 | —             | <del>1</del> |
| 20 „ ...        | 1         | — | —             | 1 | 1                            | —                            | —             | —            |
| 25 „ ...        | —         | 2 | —             | — | —                            | —                            | —             | —            |
| 35 „ ...        | 2         | 1 | —             | — | 2                            | 1                            | —             | —            |
| 45 „ ...        | —         | — | —             | — | —                            | —                            | —             | —            |
| 55 „ ...        | —         | — | —             | — | —                            | —                            | —             | —            |
| 65 „ ...        | —         | — | —             | — | —                            | —                            | —             | —            |
| TOTALS ...      | 7         | 4 | 2             | 4 | <del>4</del><br><del>5</del> | <del>1</del><br><del>2</del> | 1             | <del>1</del> |

TABLE 6.

# FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

## *Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.*

| Premises  | Inspections | Notices | Prosecu-<br>tions |
|---|-------------|---------|-------------------|
| Factories (including Factory<br>Laundries) ... ..     | 3           | Nil     | Nil               |
| Workshops (including Workshop<br>Laundries) .. ...    | 22          | Nil     | Nil               |
| Workshops (other than outworkers'<br>Premises) ... .. | Nil         | Nil     | Nil               |
| TOTAL ... ..  | 25          | Nil     | Nil               |

## *Defects found in Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.*

| Particulars                                 | Found | Remedied | Referred to<br>H.M.I. |
|---|-------|----------|-----------------------|
| Nuisanees under Public Health<br>Acts:—     |       |          |                       |
| Want of Cleanliness ... ..                  | Nil   | Nil      | Nil                   |
| Sanitary accommodation<br>unsuitable ... .. | Nil   | Nil      | Nil                   |

There were no prosecutions.

There are no underground Bakehouses.

There are 10 Bakehouses in the Distriet

There are no outworkers.

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